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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/036,200

10/19/2001

Norman Ken Ouchi

2842

41212

7590

07/11/2006

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EXAMINER

CHOI, PETER H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3623

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center">Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</p>	Application No. 10/036,200	Applicant(s) OUCHI, NORMAN KEN	
	Examiner Peter Choi	Art Unit 3623	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 26 June 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 (a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

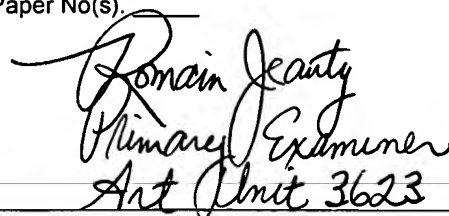
4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
 5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
 6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
 7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
 The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
 Claim(s) allowed: _____.
 Claim(s) objected to: _____.
 Claim(s) rejected: 21-39.
 Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
 9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
 10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
 12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
 13. ☐ Other: _____.


 Primary Examiner
 Art Unit 3623

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

As per claim 21, Applicant argues that Du does not teach the use of two coordinated, asynchronous routes. This limitation is not found in claim 21. Claim 21 provides for a single route. A second level workflow is defined in claim 21. A second level route is provided in the preamble, but limitations found in the preamble are directed towards intended use of the claimed invention and do not set forth additional claim limitations. Furthermore, Du does indeed teach two coordinated routes where the second route is derived from the first route. In Figure 7, the first route comprises that of {Work Node 1, Work Node 2, Rule Node 3, Work Node 5, Rule Node 5, Work Node 6, Rule Node 6, Work Node 7, Rule Node 7, Work Node 8, Rule Node 8} and the second route comprises that of {Work Node 1, Work Node 2, Rule Node 3, Rule Node 2, Work Node 9, Rule Node 6, Work Node 7, Rule Node 7, Work Node 8, Rule Node 8}. Both routes contain common route segments {Work Node 1, Work Node 2, Rule Node 3} and {Rule Node 6, Work Node 7, Rule Node 7, Work Node 8, Rule Node 8}.

As per claims 26-28, Applicant argues that Du does not teach the use of two coordinated routes executing in parallel, nor the step of using a feedback path connected across objects. This limitation is not found in claims 26-28. Claims 26-28 are directed towards means for the first route segment to report to the first object step. There is no feedback path found in claims 26-28. Furthermore, Du does indeed teach a feedback path between objects. Each Rule Node represents an object, as they represent a sequence of steps to be performed in a workflow process, and are connected to other route segments of the same workflow process. In Figure 7, the feedback loops are represented by dotted lines with arrowheads between rule nodes (R1, R2,.... R8).

Applicant's arguments are not deemed to be persuasive and fail to distinguish patentability.